

**COMPUTER-BASED COMMUNICATION USING MULTIPLE
COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In an embodiment of a method of sending a message by computer-based communication, an identification of an intended message recipient is received from the sender of the message, and one or more communications applications to be used for transmission of the message are selected. The selection of the communications applications may include evaluating availability of the intended recipient for communication using each of a set of possible communications applications. The method may further include receiving from the sender a preferred characteristic of the transmission. In an embodiment of a system for computer-based communication, the system includes a computer having a storage medium. The storage medium includes program instructions executable on the computer for receiving an identification of an intended message recipient, and for selecting one or more communications applications to be used for transmission of the message. In an embodiment, the program instructions are within a communications aggregation program.

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